

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /163 W

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R 102234Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8254

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EEC, UK, FR

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF FRENCH OFFICIAL ON UK RENEGOTIATION

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH ECON/COM MIN, BRUNET, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA, SAID GOV VIEW ON UK REQUEST FOR RENEGOTIATION OF TERMS OF ACCESSION TO EC WAS PRETTY MUCH AS JOBERT HAD STATED IT IN LUXEMBOURG, NAMELY, THAT THE EC SHOULD NOT HAVE TO BUY THIS HORSE TWICE. BRUNET SAID HE HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE UK'S REAL LONG-RANGE INTENTIONS WERE, AND HE DOUBTED WHETHER WILSON HIMSELF KNEW. HE BELIEVED THAT AT THIS STAGE THE BRITISH WERE MOTIVATED PRIMARILY BY SHORT-TERM ELECTORAL CONSIDERATIONS

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HE SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT WILSON WANTED NEW ELEC-

TIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN HIS POSITION IN PARLIAMENT AND INCREASE HIS FREEDOM OF ACTION AND THAT HE BELIEVED THAT A TOUGH POSTURE ON RENEGOTIATION WOULD WIN VOTES. BRUNET BELIEVED THAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT RENEGOTIATION BEFORE THE ELECTION BUT WANTED TO HAVE IT AS AN ELECTION ISSUE. HE SAID HIS ITALIAN COLLEAGUE, GUAZZARONI, WHO HAD JUST BEEN VISITING HIM, AGREED WITH THIS ANALYSIS.

IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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